

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-27. (Cancelled)

28. (New) A method of creating a macro for a convergence system, the convergence system having multiple components, at least one remote control, and at least one user interface other than the remote control, the macro comprising multiple commands for operating at least one of the components of the convergence system, said method comprising:

identifying at least one remote control command and at least one user interface command for execution in a desired sequence; and

assigning the sequence to at least one macro element of the system.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of assigning the sequence further comprises assigning the sequence to at least one macro element selected from the group consisting of soft keys and hard keys.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of identifying the commands comprises the step of generating the sequence of commands by operation of the user interface.

31. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of identifying the commands comprises the step of operating a component of the system by performing a corresponding command and detecting the command associated with such operation.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the convergence system includes the components of a TV tuner, a media player/recorder, and a computer, and wherein the step of identifying the commands includes selecting commands associated with any one of said components and assigning them to a macro element on either the remote control or the user interface.

33. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of identifying the commands comprises monitoring user operations of the components of the system to determine at least one sequence of commands associated with such operations.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the assigning step includes prompting a user to assign the sequence of commands determined by the monitoring step to the macro element.

35. (New) A convergence system having multiple components operable in response to macros, the system comprising:

at least one processor;

memory operably associated with said processor;

at least one remote control for selecting at least one remote control command;

at least one user interface other than the remote control for carrying out a pre-selected user interface control function defined within the system;

at least one macro element associated with at least one of the remote control and the user interface; and

a program of instructions configured to be executed by said processor and stored in said memory, said program adapted to:

identify at least one remote control command and at least one user interface command for execution in a desired sequence; and

assign the sequence to the macro element of the system.

36. (New) The system of claim 35, wherein the macro element is selected from the group consisting of soft keys and hard keys.

37. (New) The system of claim 35, wherein the program is adapted to identify the commands by means of user operation of the user interface.

38. (New) The system of claim 35, wherein the program is adapted to identify the commands in response to operation of at least one of the components of the system and detection of the command corresponding to such operation.

39. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein the components include at least two components selected from the group consisting of a TV tuner, a media player/recorder, and a computer, wherein the program is adapted to identify the commands in response to selection of commands associated with any one of said components, and wherein the program is further adapted to assign the identified commands to the macro element irrespective of whether said macro element is associated with the remote control or the user interface.

40. (New) The system of claim 35, wherein the program is adapted to monitor user operations of the components of the system to determine at least one sequence of commands associated with such operations.

41. (New) The system of claim 40, wherein the program is adapted to prompt the user to assign the sequence of commands determined by the monitoring operations to the macro element.

42. (New) A graphical interface user ("GUI") for use in creating macros for a convergence system, the convergence system having multiple components, at least one remote control, and at least one user interface other than the remote control, the macro comprising multiple commands for operating at least one of the components of the convergence system, the graphical user interface comprising:

means for identifying at least one remote control command and at least one user interface command for execution in a desired sequence; and

means for assigning the sequence to at least one macro element of the system.

43. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 42, wherein the means for assigning the sequence further comprises means for assigning the sequence to at least one macro element selected from the group consisting of soft keys and hard keys.

44. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 42, wherein the convergence system includes the components of a TV tuner, a media player/recorder, and a computer, and wherein the means for identifying the commands includes means for selecting commands associated with any one of said components and assigning them to a macro element on either the remote control or the user interface.

45. (New) A signal embodied in a propagation medium for use in connection with a convergence system, the convergence system having macro elements associated therewith, said signal comprising:

at least one instruction configured to identify at least one remote control command and at least one user interface command for execution in a desired sequence; and

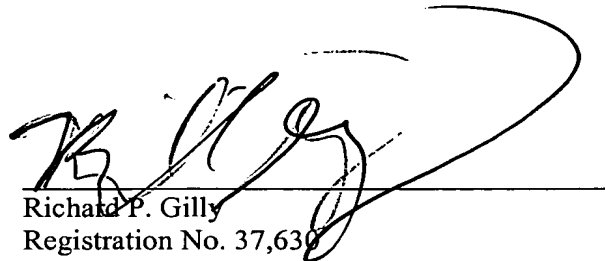
at least one instruction configured to assign the sequence to one of the macro elements of the system.

46. (New) The signal of claim 45, wherein the macro elements are selected from the group consisting of soft keys and hard keys, and wherein the signal comprises at least one instruction to assign the sequence to at least one of the keys.

47. (New) The signal of claim 45, further comprising at least one instruction adapted to identify the commands by means of user operation of the user interface.

48. (New) The signal of claim 45, further comprising at least one instruction to identify the commands in response to operation of at least one of the components of the system and detection of the command corresponding to such operation.

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